



SUMMARIZED MINUTES

HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

February 8, 2016

**City Hall Kiva Forum
3939 N. Drinkwater Blvd
Scottsdale, AZ 85251**

PRESENT: James Campbell, Chairman
Ragan Grossman, Vice Chair
Joseph Ettinger, Commissioner
Andrew Song, Commissioner
Laurie Coe, Commissioner
Ricoh Danielson, Commissioner
Daria Lohman, Commissioner

STAFF: Sharon Cini
Brent Stockwell

GUESTS: Lloyd Asato
Debbie Manuel
Florita Campbell

CALL TO ORDER/ ROLL CALL

Chair Campbell called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

Members present as noted above

1. Approval of minutes from the January 11, 2016 meeting

COMMISSIONER SONG MOVED TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 11, 2016 HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES. COMMISSIONER LOHMAN SECONDED THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED BY A UNANIMOUS VOTE OF SEVEN (7) TO ZERO (0).

2. Public Comment

No members of the public wished to speak.

3. Presentation, discussion and recommendations to staff liaison regarding adding Asian Pacific Community in Action (APCA) to Community Diversity Partners list

Lloyd Asato, Executive Director of APCA, gave a presentation discussing the results of a report APCA compiled together with the Asian Americans Advancing Justice. His presentation included key findings from the report which found that Asian American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander (NHPI) communities are the fastest growing community and are making significant economic contributions. They are civically engaged, in spite of many struggling with low-income, health disparities, and limited English proficiency.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Mr. Asato explained that the organization was formed in 2002 as a community health organization focusing on language and health access barriers. He discussed immigration barriers, financial assistance and partnerships, and housing discrimination. He said that the Human Services Commission could help by partnering with APCA to raise awareness of issues faced by the Asian Pacific Islander and NHPI communities. APCA focuses on community access to healthcare, workforce development, and advocacy.

4. Presentation, discussion and recommendation to staff liaison regarding adding Morning Star Youth Leadership Foundation (MSYL) to Community Diversity Partners list

Debbie Nez-Manuel gave a presentation discussing Morning Star Youth Leadership Foundation's mission and goals. The organization is a non-profit organization founded in 2011 and focuses on protecting indigenous youth through traditional leadership teachings and preserving their strength and cultural identity. She talked about educational and fund raising activities that the participants take part in. Participants are able to engage with a professional or personal connection 24/7/365.

Commission members were given an opportunity to ask questions. Discussion ensued regarding the influence of Code Talkers on the indigenous community; military opportunities for youth; Veterans' challenges with receiving healthcare assistance; and the importance of kinship.

The Inaugural Arizona Native Youth Leadership Summit will be held on Saturday, April 30, 2016 at a location to be determined.

5. Presentation, discussion and recommendation to staff liaison regarding Community Diversity Partner List and allocating funds for proposed civic or corporate sponsorships requests

Commissioner Song proposed that the Human Relations Commission annually in January review the Community Partnerships including each organization's mission and achievements; the amount of financial support that has been contributed by the City; and cost effectiveness of the Civil Dialogue Series. Following the review, he suggested that organizations be given an opportunity to submit applications to the City. He stressed the

importance of ensuring that the HRC only support sponsoring organizations that fit within the Commission's mission statement and goals.

Discussion ensued regarding parameters of diversity partnerships. Ms. Cini reviewed the FY 2015/16 diversity partnerships line item for civic events and corporate sponsorships. She noted that with recommendations from the HRC, she is ultimately responsible for making the final decision regarding funding and partnerships. Brent Stockwell reiterated that the Ordinance establishing the HRC outlines that the Diversity Manager responsibilities are to manage external relationships and how money is spent with input from the Commission.

It was the consensus of the Commission to schedule a special meeting sometime before the March meeting to further discuss how to manage partnerships.

6. Staff updates regarding upcoming diversity events and activities

Ms. Cini said that she attended the Martin Luther King Day Celebration and thanked everyone for attending the event. The Interfaith Dialogue Event has received positive feedback and a link to the video recording will be made available in the next few days. Ms. Cini and Commissioner Danielson participated in the Regional Unity Walk on January 30th. Ms. Cini announced that she expects to have at least 500 City staff members trained in diversity by the end of May.

Ms. Cini noted that February is the Chinese New Year and it is the Year of the Monkey. February is Black History Month.

Ms. Cini asked Commissioners to consider how they would like to participate in La Grande Fiesta, which is scheduled for March 6.

The Youth Summit on January 21 was a success with 89 youth in attendance.

Out at SMOCA is scheduled for March 24.

Ms. Cini asked that Commission members solicit community members who might be interested in participating with the Mayor's Committee on Employment of People with disabilities, which is an awards and scholarship program that is scheduled for October.

The Parada del Sol is scheduled for February 13 and Commission members are invited to ride in the parade on the double-decker bus.

7. Report from Chair

Chair Campbell said that he has been invited by the Bangladesh Community to attend their event on February 24th. He invited Commission members to participate in the Cultural Pilipino Organization booth.

Chair Campbell thanked everyone for their help with the Civil Dialogue Series event and was pleased with the positive feedback. He requested that a discussion about a possible Civil Dialogue follow-up activity be agendaized for the next meeting.

Chair Campbell requested that each Commissioner consider what types of programs or activities the Human Relations Commission could participate in and bring those ideas to the next meeting.

8. Commissioner Items, including diversity activities attended

Commissioner Coe attended the MLK dinner and felt it was the best one yet. She said she took away a lot of valuable insight from the Civil Dialogue event.

Commissioner Ettinger said he attended the MLK community day and the dinner and he looks forward to his continued participation in the HRC.

Commissioner Danielson said that he participated in the Regional Unity Walk.

Commissioner Lohman attended the MLK Dinner and the Civil Dialogue Event. She commented that she would like to see a similar diversity event focused strictly on the diversity within the Christian faith.

Commissioner Song requested that the Commission be provided with a list of organizations' scholarship opportunities that can be promoted.

9. Discussion regarding the draft agenda for the next meeting, and dates, times and topics for upcoming meetings

Chair Campbell reiterated his request that the Commissioners suggest an idea for activities that they are interested in doing for the remainder of the year and asked them to continue communication with Council Members.

Ms. Cini noted that the City Attorney's Office has recommended that items that Commission members will be sharing be included on the agenda so they can be discussed. She requested a list of those items in advance of the meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, being duly moved and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
A/V Tronics, Inc. DBA AVTranz